

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A terminal, comprising:

a display module;

a document scanning module;

5 a cylindrical paper roll rotatably mounted on a spindle within the terminal such that flat edges of the roll are substantially parallel to a base surface of the terminal;

a receipt printer assembly, the receipt printer assembly being adapted to print a receipt of a document scanning operation on paper from the cylindrical paper roll, and

10 control and processing electronics, the control and processing electronics being coupled to and controlling an operation of at least the display module, the document scanning module and the receipt printer assembly.

2. The terminal of Claim 1, further comprising a sliding tray supporting the receipt printer assembly and the cylindrical paper roll, the tray being adapted to slide from a first position wherein the paper roll and the receipt printer assembly are disposed within the terminal and a second position wherein both the receipt printer assembly and the paper roll
15 are exposed to allow substantially unencumbered access thereto.

3. The terminal of Claim 2, further including a handle attached to the sliding tray for manually pushing and pulling the sliding tray into and out of the terminal.

4. The terminal of Claim 2, wherein the sliding tray is travel-limited to prevent
20 the sliding tray from being pulled out too far and tipping the terminal.

5. The terminal of Claim 2, further comprising:

a pivoting terminal door; and

a paper exit guide mounted within the pivoting terminal door, the printed receipt being fed through the paper exit guide.

6. The terminal of Claim 1, wherein the receipt printer assembly prints a
5 readable code on the receipt linking the printed receipt to information obtained from the document scanning operation and wherein the terminal further comprises a code reader configured to read the printed code, to thereby access the information obtained from the document scanning operation.

7. The terminal of Claim 1, wherein the code reader includes a barcode reader.

10 8. The terminal of Claim 7, wherein the barcode reader includes one of a laser barcode reader and a CCD bar code reader.

9. The terminal of Claim 1, wherein the receipt printer assembly includes a read-after-print mechanism to detect printing failures.

10. The terminal of Claim 1, further comprising a communications interface
15 adapted to allow the terminal to communicate with a remote computer.

11. The terminal of Claim 1, further comprising a smart chip reader coupled to and controlled by the control and processing electronics.

12. The terminal of Claim 1, further including at least one of a keyboard module and a touch screen coupled to the control and processing electronics.

20 13. The terminal of Claim 1, wherein at least the display and document scanning modules include quick release interlocking clips that allow the modules to be attached to or separated from one another and/or a terminal base.

14. The terminal of Claim 1, further including a cover to which the display module is fitted, the cover being dimensioned to a size of the display module.

15. The terminal of claim 1, wherein the receipt printer assembly includes a printer of a type selected from a group including thermal print, impact, electric burning and
5 arcing and ink jet types.

16. A document scanning terminal, comprising:

a scanning module;

a receipt printer assembly module adapted to print a receipt of a scanning operation from paper fed to the printer assembly by a cylindrical paper roll, the cylindrical paper roll
10 being disposed within the terminal such that flat edges of the roll are substantially parallel to a base surface of the terminal.

17. The scanning terminal of Claim 16, wherein the receipt printer prints a readable code on the receipt that links the printed receipt to information obtained from a scanning operation carried out by the scanning module and wherein the terminal further
15 comprises a code reader adapted to read the code, to thereby access the information obtained from the scanning operation.

18. The scanning terminal of Claim 16, further comprising:

a terminal base;

a terminal casing removably fitted to the terminal base, the terminal casing enclosing
20 the receipt printer assembly, and

a terminal cover removably fitted on the terminal casing.

19. The scanning terminal of Claim 18, further comprising a sliding tray mounted to the terminal base, the sliding tray supporting the receipt printer assembly and the cylindrical paper roll, the tray being adapted to slide from a first operative position wherein the paper roll and the receipt printer assembly are enclosed within the terminal casing and a
5 second paper loading and servicing position wherein both the receipt printer assembly and the paper roll are accessible outside the terminal casing.

20. The scanning terminal of Claim 19, wherein the terminal casing comprises a pivoting door, the door being open when the tray is in the second position.

21. The scanning terminal of Claim 18, wherein the receipt printer assembly and
10 the cylindrical paper roll are mounted to the terminal base and the cylindrical roll of paper is loaded by detaching the terminal cover from the terminal casing and/or removing the terminal casing from the terminal base.

22. The scanning terminal of Claim 18, wherein the scanning module, the terminal base, the terminal casing and the terminal cover each include quick release
15 interlocking clips allowing the scanning module, the terminal base, the terminal casing and the terminal modules to be attached to or separated from one another.

23. The scanning terminal of Claim 18, further comprising control and processing electronics housed in the terminal base, the terminal base and the scanning module including mating integrated power and control connectors to electrically couple the scanning module to
20 the control and processing electronics.

24. The scanning terminal of Claim 16, wherein the receipt printer assembly module prints a readable code on the receipt that links the printed receipt to information

obtained from a scanning operation carried out by the scanning module and wherein the terminal further comprises a code reader configured to read the printed code, to thereby access the information obtained from the scanning operation.

25. The scanning terminal of Claim 18, further comprising a smart chip reader
5 housed in the terminal base.

26. The scanning terminal of Claim 16, wherein the scanning module is configured to scan a document having a width of up to about 225 mm and a length at least about 400 mm.

27. The scanning terminal of Claim 18, further comprising:
10 control and processing electronics housed in the terminal base;
at least one of a keyboard and a display, the keyboard and the display being electrically coupled to the control and processing electronics.

28. The scanning terminal of Claim 27, wherein the keyboard and the display are fitted to the terminal cover.

15 29. The scanning terminal of Claim 27, wherein the display includes a touch screen.

30. A modular computer terminal, comprising:
a document scanner module;
control and processing electronics;
20 a display module;
a keyboard module; and

an integrated printer, wherein the modules each include quick release interlocking clips allowing the modules to be attached to or separated from one another.

31. The modular computer terminal of Claim 30, further comprising:

a terminal base housing the control and processing electronics;

5 a terminal casing removably fitted to the terminal base, the terminal casing enclosing the printer, and

a terminal cover removably fitted to the terminal casing.

32. The modular computer terminal of Claim 31, wherein the terminal casing is configured to enclose a rotatably mounted cylindrical paper roll that supplies paper to the
10 printer, flat edges of the paper roll being substantially parallel to the base surface of the terminal.

33. The modular computer terminal of Claim 30, wherein the printer is configured to print a receipt after the document scanner module scans a document, the receipt including a readable code linking the printed receipt to information associated with the scanned
15 document, and wherein the modular computer terminal further comprises a code reader configured to read the code, the display module displaying the information associated with the scanned document when the code reader reads the code printed on the receipt.

34. The modular computer terminal of Claim 33, further comprising a random access mass storage device, the storage device storing and allowing access to the information
20 associated with the scanned document.

35. The modular computer terminal of Claim 30, wherein the integrated printer includes a read-after-print mechanism to detect scanning or printing failures.